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Don't blame bail reform for higher crime, NYC watchdog says

New York Governor Kathy Hochul speaks during the New York State Democratic Convention in New York, Thursday, Feb. 17, 2022.

Associated Press
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Don't blame bail reform for higher crime, NYC watchdog says

From Front

By **MICHAEL R. SISAK**
Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Two years ago, New York joined a growing number of states scaling back the use of cash bail for criminal defendants. Ever since then, critics of the reforms have warned it would lead to dangerous people being released to commit more crimes.

A new report by New York City's fiscal watchdog says that predicted wave of recidivism hasn't happened. While far more people are being diverted from jail while awaiting trial, the percentage who get re-arrested for new offenses remained virtually unchanged after the reforms



In this June 16, 2015 file photo, the casket bearing Kalief Browder is loaded into a hearse after his funeral service in the Bronx borough of New York.

Associated Press

took effect, according to the analysis by City Comptroller Brad Lander. In most months, it is still right around 4%.

Both before and after the reforms, only a small frac-

tion of the people released while awaiting trial — less than 1% — were re-arrested for violent felonies.

The report's release comes as some New York officials have considered rolling

back bail reforms, which were enacted as part of an effort to address the inequity of poor people being jailed because they couldn't afford bail, while wealthier people accused of the same crimes went free. "We think it's important that policy making follows facts rather than fear," Lander, a Democrat, told The Associated Press. "We wanted to take a look at the data on bail trends and understand what is really happening. The conversation on bail reform has gotten divorced from that data." New York was among the first states to eliminate bail and detention for most nonviolent crimes, following a half-dozen states, including New Jersey and Nebraska, that passed laws establishing a presumption of release and nonmonetary bail. New York eliminated bail for many nonviolent felonies and required appearance tickets instead of arrests for low-level offenses. The changes kicked in months before the coronavirus pandemic led to widespread shutdowns, which were followed in some places by an increase in shootings. Lately, a number of headline-grabbing violent crimes in New York City have given momentum to bail reform critics. In recent days, Gov. Kathy Hochul's administration has circulated a draft plan that would make more crimes eligible for detention and give judges broader latitude in setting bail.

The plan, first reported last week by the New York Post, calls for allowing judges to consider a defendant's criminal history and use of firearms when setting bail, making certain gun crimes and attacks on subway riders and workers eligible for

detention, and allowing police to arrest repeat offenders for low-level crimes that would otherwise warrant an appearance ticket. Right now, New York is unusual among states in that it requires judges to decide whether to hold a criminal defendant primarily based on whether they are likely to return to court if released. Other states let judges consider whether a person might be a danger to the public.

Criminal justice advocates welcomed bail reform as bringing overdue fairness to a two-tiered system where people accused of low-level offenses — like Kalief Browder, a 16-year-old accused of robbing a man of a bag — languished in jail, unable to afford small amounts of bail while wealthy defendants were able to secure release.

Browder spent three years at New York City's notorious Rikers Island jail complex — including nearly two years in solitary confinement — before the charges were dropped. He later killed himself. Washington, D.C., pioneered the end of cash bail in 1992. Maine passed similar legislation last year for nonviolent misdemeanors and violations. An Illinois law eliminating cash bail and setting strict rules for ordering detention goes into effect in January 2023. California's 2018 law eliminating cash bail was blocked from taking effect by a 2020 referendum backed by the state's bail bond industry, and cash bail remains in effect in the nation's most populous state. Utah passed reforms in October 2020 meant to reduce reliance on cash bail, but repealed them months later after some lawmakers and sheriffs protested. □

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Biden to announce new Russia sanctions while in Brussels

By AAMER MADHANI

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Joe Biden plans to announce new sanctions against Russia on Thursday while in Brussels for meetings with NATO and European allies, according to a top national security aide. Biden, who will take part in a special meeting of NATO and address the European Council summit, is also expected to underscore efforts to enforce the avalanche of existing sanctions already announced by the U.S. and allies.

"He will join our partners in imposing further sanctions on Russia and tightening the existing sanctions to crack down on evasion and to ensure robust enforcement," said White House national security adviser Jake Sullivan, who declined to further preview new sanctions the president will announce.

Biden is traveling to Brussels and Poland — which has received more than 2 million Ukrainian refugees who have fled since the Feb. 24 invasion — looking to press for continued unity among Western allies as Russia presses on with its brutal invasion of Ukraine.

In Poland, Biden will meet with Polish President Andrzej Duda, who has requested further U.S. aid and a stepped up military presence on NATO's eastern flank as the war grinds on. The U.S. has already more than doubled its regular troop presence of more than 4,000 U.S. troops. Currently, there are about 10,000 U.S. troops in Poland.

Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania and Romania have also called for a greater NATO or U.S. military presence in recent weeks.

Sullivan suggested that could be coming soon as Biden plans to have talks "on longer term adjustments to NATO force posture on the eastern flank."

"We feel that it is the right place for him to go to be able to see troops, to be able to see humanitarian experts and to be able to meet with a frontline and



National security adviser Jake Sullivan speaks during a press briefing at the White House, Tuesday, March 22, 2022, in Washington.

Associated Press

very vulnerable ally," Sullivan said of Biden's visit to Poland.

Talks on troop adjustments are already underway.

Last week, at NATO's Brussels headquarters, U.S. Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin and his counterparts weighed what defenses to set up on the organization's eastern flank, from Estonia in the north through Latvia, Lithuania and Poland down to Bulgaria and Romania on the Black Sea. The aim is to deter President Vladimir Putin from ordering an invasion of any of the 30 allies; not just for the duration of this war but for the next 5-10 years. Before launching it, Putin had demanded that NATO stop expanding and withdraw its forces from the east. The opposite is happening.

In just the past two months, the U.S. presence in Europe has jumped from about 80,000 troops to about 100,000, which is nearly as many as were there in 1997 when the United States and its NATO allies began an expansion of the alliance that Putin says threatens Russia and must be reversed. By comparison, in 1991, the year the Soviet Union dissolved, the United States had 305,000 troops in Europe, including 224,000 in Germany alone, according to Pentagon records. The number then

dropped steadily, reaching 101,000 in 2005 and about 64,000 as recently as 2020. Biden and NATO have said repeatedly that while the U.S. and NATO will provide weapons and other defensive support to non-NATO member Ukraine, they are determined to avoid any escalation on behalf of Kyiv that risks a broader war with Russia.

Polish leaders have called for a Western peacekeeping mission to intervene in Ukraine, a step that the U.S. and other allies worry could lead to a broadening of the war.

Sullivan added that Biden will also "announce joint action on enhancing European energy security and reducing Europe's dependence on Russian gas." □

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Storms tear into Texas, Oklahoma then move into Deep South

By **ACACIA CORONADO**
and **JILL BLEED**
Associated Press/ Report for America

ELGIN, Texas (AP) — One person was killed and more than a dozen were injured when tornadoes tore through parts of Texas and Oklahoma damaging a school, homes and businesses, before the storm system continued its destructive path Tuesday into Louisiana and Mississippi.

High winds uprooted trees in Ridgeland, Mississippi, as a possible tornado passed the Jackson-area city Tuesday afternoon, but there were no immediate reports of any injuries or serious damage to buildings. Campus police at Mississippi State University, in Starkville, shared a photo of a large hardwood tree lying across a street.

Forecasters issued multiple tornado warnings for the state, and alerts spread into Alabama as the line of storms moved eastward. More than 90,000 homes and businesses were left without power from Texas to Mississippi.

Many schools were closing early or cancelling after-school activities Tuesday in parts of Louisiana and Mississippi to allow students to get home before the weather deteriorated. Shelters opened for residents who need a place to stay



Debris litters the ground surrounding homes, damaged by a tornado, on Oxford Drive and Stratford Drive in Round Rock, Texas Monday, March 21, 2022.

Associated Press

while the storms traveled through.

High water posed a threat to motorists early Tuesday in Louisiana on several roads, including a stretch of Interstate 20 and several state highways after rains overnight, authorities said. Deputies in Caddo Parish, which includes Shreveport, rescued three drivers from high waters during the night, the sheriff's office tweeted before dawn.

The storms were expected to intensify throughout the day as temperatures rise, increasing the threat of tornadoes, hail and strong winds. Forecasters pre-

dicted intense tornadoes and damaging winds, some hurricane-force with speeds of 75 mph (120 kph) or greater, in much of Mississippi, southern and eastern Louisiana, and western Alabama. Baton Rouge, Louisiana, and Jackson, Mississippi, were among the cities at risk for bad weather.

Louisiana's federal and state authorities reminded thousands of hurricane survivors living in government-provided mobile homes and recreational vehicle trailers to have an evacuation plan because the structures might not with-

stand the expected weather. More than 8,000 households live in such temporary quarters, officials said.

In Texas, several tornadoes were reported Monday along the Interstate 35 corridor, particularly in the Austin suburbs of Round Rock and Elgin, and close to Dallas-Fort Worth. Two unconfirmed tornadoes caused damage in the Lake Texoma area of northern Texas and southern Oklahoma.

In Elgin, broken trees lined the rural roads and pieces of metal — uprooted by strong winds hung from the branches. Residents stepped carefully to avoid

downed power lines as they worked to clean the remnants of broken ceilings, torn down walls and damaged cars.

J.D. Harkins, 59, said he saw two tornadoes pass by his Elgin home.

"There used to be a barn there," Harkins said, pointing to an empty plot on his uncle's property covered with scattered debris. He said the building was empty when the first tornado hit Monday, and that his family is thankful nobody was hurt.

"It was crystal clear, well defined," Harkins said. "And then one went up and another one came down."

The tornadoes came on a wild weather day in Texas — wildfires burned in the west and a blizzard warning was issued for the Texas Panhandle, where up to 9 inches (23 centimeters) of snow fell.

"There's absolutely nothing out of the ordinary in terms of what we saw yesterday and we see today," said Victor Gensini, a meteorology professor at Northern Illinois University, who studies severe storms. It's the time of year when tornadoes and storms are to be expected and there are usually more during years with a La Nina, a natural cooling of parts of the Pacific that alters weather across the globe, he said. □



Members of the New Orleans Police Department investigate a carjacking scene on N. Pierce St. that resulted in an elderly woman's death in New Orleans, La., Monday, March 21, 2022.

Associated Press

By **KEVIN MCGILL**
Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — Four teenagers face murder

charges in connection with a carjacking that left a 73-year-old woman dying on a New Orleans street,

Woman's arm severed in deadly carjacking; 4 teens arrested

her arm severed after she was dragged a block by her own car while neighbors looked on helplessly, officials said Tuesday.

Police chief Shaun Ferguson said tips led to the arrests of the teens — a 17-year-old boy, a 16-year-old girl and two 15-year-old girls — in the hours after the Monday afternoon carjacking. Two were turned in by their parents. All face second-degree murder charges, and Ferguson said he will recommend that they be charged as adults.

"That's a conversation that my team will have with the

district attorney's office," Ferguson said at a Tuesday morning news conference. "I would say absolutely, I encourage, I will ask, that they be charged as adults. ... I mean, look at the nature of the crime."

Ferguson confirmed that Linda Frickey died after she become entangled in a seatbelt as carjackers sped away with her vehicle.

"The door had closed on the seatbelt, but she was stuck in it," resident Todd Ecker told WVUE-TV on Monday. "I got out of my vehicle, screaming for them, 'Please stop,

you're dragging a lady.' Other neighbors were also screaming at them."

A tearful Leanne Mascar and her husband Mark Mascar tried to comfort the victim as she died at the scene. "I was telling this woman to hang in there," Mark Mascar told the TV station. "Every time I heard a siren, I was hoping and praying that was an ambulance." On Tuesday morning, Ferguson credited the arrests to police working throughout the night and information from a variety of sources, including two suspects' parents. □

Trudeau reaches deal to keep his party in power till 2025

By **ROB GILLIES**

Associated Press

TORONTO (AP) — Prime Minister Justin Trudeau said Tuesday his Liberal Party has reached an agreement with the leftist opposition New Democratic Party that would keep his party in power until 2025.

"What this means is during this uncertain time the government can function with predictability and stability, present and implement budgets and get things done for Canadians," Trudeau said.

Trudeau's Liberal Party won reelection in September but failed to win a majority of seats in Parliament and must rely on the opposition to pass legislation. The NDP party will support Trudeau's Liberals in exchange for deals on pharmaceutical and dental care plans, but it will not have a lawmaker in Trudeau's Cabinet and Trudeau said the NDP won't have a veto on any budget or any other legislation.

"We've agreed to work together," Trudeau said. "It's about focusing on what we agree on instead of what we disagree on."

NDP leader Jagmeet Singh said it isn't a coalition government and if the Liberals fall short on conditions the deal doesn't continue. But



Prime Minister Justin Trudeau delivers remarks during a Liberal Party fundraising event at the Versailles Convention Centre in Mississauga, Ontario, Thursday, March 17, 2022.

Associated Press

he said he's confident it will work. Anti-vaccine protesters and truckers who laid siege to parts of Ottawa, the capital, called for Trudeau's government to be ousted earlier this year. Now he's assured of staying in power for some time.

"This is nothing more than a Justin Trudeau power grab," interim Conservative Party leader Candice Bergen said. Trudeau said he plans to run again when the next election is held,

which must be by 2025. But there are widespread doubts that he will do so, given that he would have been in power for 10 years, has seen a drop in his popularity and a rise in animosity toward him in much of western Canada.

Trudeau is still remembered for evoking the prospect of "sunny ways" when he took office in 2015 at age 43, the second-youngest Canadian prime minister ever. There have been set-

backs since then, but he has been reelected twice. Tall and trim, Trudeau channeled the star power if not quite the political heft of his father, Pierre Trudeau, who swept to power in 1968 on a wave of support dubbed "Trudeaumania." Pierre Trudeau, who was prime minister until 1984 with a short interruption, remains one of the few Canadian politicians known in America, his charisma often drawing comparisons

to John F. Kennedy.

Daniel Béland, a politics professor at McGill University in Montreal, said the agreement will provide much stability to Trudeau's Liberal minority government while promoting further left-leaning spending priorities like dental care and medical drug coverage onto the policy agenda.

"This would create a frustrating situation, with less clout for the Conservative Party of Canada," Béland said.

Béland calls the length of Justin Trudeau's tenure impressive, noting it would make him one of the longest serving Prime Ministers in recent debates, alongside Jean Chrétien and Stephen Harper, who both served for about a decade.

"However, his father Pierre Trudeau, the third longest serving Prime Minister on Canadian history, served for more than 15 years, a performance his son might struggle to emulate," Béland said.

Robert Bothwell, a professor of Canadian history and international relations at the University of Toronto, said the agreement puts Trudeau in a position to expand the social welfare net and that's probably what he'd be remembered for. □

U.K. slams Russia after officials duped by hoax video calls

By **JILL LAWLESS**

Associated Press

LONDON (AP) — Britain accused Russia of spreading misinformation on Tuesday by posting doctored clips of the U.K.'s defense chief speaking to a hoaxer posing as Ukraine's prime minister.

Two videos of Defense Secretary Ben Wallace speaking to the imposter were posted on the YouTube channel of Russian prankster duo Vovan and Lexus. The British government says the Russian state was behind the hoax, which it says was designed to sow false information and embarrass Britain.

One clip, prefaced by shots

of Buckingham Palace and the Houses of Parliament, shows Wallace speaking from Poland to a caller who says Ukraine wants to progress its "nuclear program" to protect itself from Moscow, something Russian state media has baselessly claimed in the past.

Another shows Wallace appearing to suggest that Britain is "running out of our own" NLAW anti-tank weapons after giving 4,000 of the rocket launchers to Ukraine to help resist the invasion Moscow launched on Feb. 24.

Britain's Ministry of Defense said the clips had been "fed out to obscure and manipulate the truth."

"People should be very sceptical about reporting on, and accepting as real, any part of these Russian state-doctored clips," it said in a statement. It said Britain had "enough weapons systems to defend both U.K. national security and maintain our commitments to NATO."

The government has launched a security probe into how a hoaxer posing as Ukrainian Prime Minister Denys Shmyhal was put through on a video call to Wallace on Thursday. Wallace said he became suspicious and hung up after the caller "posed several misleading questions."

Another hoax call was

made to Home Secretary Priti Patel, and Culture Secretary Nadine Dorries said

an unsuccessful attempt also was made to speak to her. □



British Defense Minister Ben Wallace speaks with the media as he arrives for a meeting of NATO defense ministers at NATO headquarters in Brussels, March 16, 2022.

Associated Press

Rohingya refugees welcome U.S. calling repression genocide

By JULHAS ALAM

Associated Press

DHAKA, Bangladesh (AP)

— Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh welcomed Monday's announcement by the United States that it considers the violent repression of their largely Muslim ethnic group in Myanmar a genocide.

Myanmar's military government, which has already been sued in the International Court of Justice on genocide charges, said it categorically rejected the U.S. declaration.

As news of the announcement by U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken spread across the sprawling camps in Cox's Bazar district that are now home to about 1 million Rohingya, many residents expressed their enthusiasm.

"We are very happy on the declaration of the genocide; many many thanks," said 60-year-old Sala Uddin, who lives at Kutupalong camp.

"It has been 60 years starting from 1962 that the Myanmar government has been torturing us and many other communities including Rohingya," he said. "I think a path to take action by the international community against Myanmar



Rohingya refugee Sala Uddin, talks to the Associated Press at the Kutupalong Rohingya camp in Cox's Bazar district, Bangladesh, Monday, March 21, 2022.

has opened up because of the declaration."

The U.S. made the determination Monday to call the repression a genocide based on confirmed accounts of mass atrocities on civilians by Myanmar's military in a widespread and systematic campaign against the Rohingya, Blinken said in a speech at the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum.

Imtiaz Ahmed, director of the Centre for Genocide Studies at the University of Dhaka, said the declaration was "a positive step," but it would be important

to see what actions and "concrete steps" follow.

"Just by saying that genocide had been committed in Myanmar against the Rohingya is not good enough. I think we need to see what would follow from that statement," Ahmed said.

He said it was too early to say how the new development would ensure the recognition of the Rohingya refugees, who have long been denied citizenship in Myanmar, and the fundamental questions remained how and when they would go back to Myanmar.

He also said that going for

harsh economic sanctions by the U.S. against Myanmar could be the next outcome. He said it was also equally important to see whether the U.S. would take interest in supporting the International Court of Justice in The Hague where Myanmar is facing a trial put forward by Gambia.

Myanmar's government is already under multiple layers of U.S. sanctions since a military coup ousted the democratically elected government in February 2021. Thousands of civilians throughout the country have been killed and im-

prisoned as part of ongoing repression of anyone opposed to the ruling junta. Currently Bangladesh is hosting more than 1 million Rohingya refugees. More than 700,000 Rohingya have fled from Buddhist-majority Myanmar to refugee camps in Bangladesh since August 2017, when the military launched an operation aimed at clearing them from the country following attacks by a rebel group. In its first official reaction following the U.S. action, the foreign ministry of Myanmar's military government firmly rejected the accusations. The statement issued Tuesday evening charged that Blinken's declaration was politically motivated and amounted to interference in Myanmar's internal affairs.

However, a statement from Myanmar's main opposition group, the National Unity Government, which considers itself to be the country's legitimate administrative body, said it welcomed Washington's declaration. The group was established by lawmakers who were not allowed to take their seats when the army seized power from the elected government of Aung San Suu Kyi. □

East Africa's hunger crisis needs global action, says Oxfam

By RODNEY MUHUMUZA

Associated Press

KAMPALA, Uganda (AP)

— Widespread hunger across East Africa could become "a catastrophe" without

an injection of funds to the region's most vulnerable communities, the international aid group Oxfam warned Tuesday.

An estimated 13 million

people are facing severe hunger in the Horn of Africa as a result of persistent drought conditions, according to the United Nations.

Only 3% of the needed \$6 billion has been raised for food assistance amid "competing priorities," as the world's attention has focused on the humanitarian crisis in the war in Ukraine, Oxfam International Executive Director Gabriela Bucher said in Kenya's capital, Nairobi.

"The brutal truth is that at the moment East Africa is not on the global agenda," said Bucher. The world risks "ignoring one of the greatest crises," she said. "2022 cannot be the year in which hundreds of thou-

sands die from an unavoidable hunger crisis in East Africa because we couldn't get this into the agenda." Somalia, Ethiopia and Kenya face the driest conditions recorded since 1981, the U.N. World Food Program reported in February. More forecasts of below-average rainfall threaten to worsen conditions in the coming months, the agency warned.

Malnutrition rates are high in the region and drought conditions are affecting pastoral and farming communities.

While it "feels like a world on fire," donors "don't have to choose. The human rights and humanitarian needs of all people must be met," said Bucher. "Our world is

more than capable of doing so."

Somalia is particularly vulnerable because it faces sporadic violence and there is concern the situation could deteriorate. Hundreds of thousands of Somalis have already fled their homes in search of help.

About 250,000 people in Somalia died from hunger in 2011, when the U.N. declared a famine in some parts of the country. Half of them were children.

Bucher called for "a life-saving" cash injection to support local responders to cope with the impact of drought conditions.

"A life in Somalia is equal to the life of anyone else in the world," she said. □



Herders supply water from a borehole to give to their camels near Kuruti, in Garissa County, Kenya Wednesday, Oct. 27, 2021.

Associated Press

Protesters in Jamaica spurn royals ahead of official visit

By DÁNICA COTO

Associated Press

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico (AP)

— Protesters in Jamaica raised their fists Tuesday as they donned T-shirts emblazoned with a pair of shackled Black wrists surrounded by the phrases “Seh Yuh Sorry!” and “Apologize now!” as they demonstrated just hours before the official visit of Prince William and Kate.

The protest in front of the British High Commission in Kingston comes just days after dozens of prominent leaders in Jamaica publicized a letter demanding that Britain apologize and award its former colony slavery reparations. They also decried the weeklong Central American and Caribbean tour that the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge embarked on Saturday, which coincides with Jamaica's 60th independence anniversary and the 70th anniversary of Queen Elizabeth II's coronation.

“Kings, Queens and Princesses and Princes belong in fairytales, NOT in Jamaica!” read one poster held aloft by a young girl who joined the protest.

The royal couple's trip, which began with a stop in Belize followed by scheduled visits to Jamaica and the Bahamas, was organized at the queen's behest as some countries debate cutting ties to the monarchy like Barbados did in November.

Mike Henry, a veteran Jamaican lawmaker, said in a phone interview that while the topic has been discussed, he worries that demands for an apology and reparations would be rendered moot if the island stopped pledging allegiance to the queen.

Maziki Thame, a senior lecturer at the University of the West Indies, noted that Jamaicans have been seeking reparations for decades. “This is not a new cause,” she said in a phone interview as she prepared to join the protest. “The question is whether it will get any traction...whether the British are ready to contend with their history.”



People protest to demand an apology and slavery reparations during a visit to the former British colony by the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge, Prince William and Kate, in Kingston, Jamaica, Tuesday, March 22, 2022.

Associated Press

The British empire controlled Jamaica for more than 300 years and forced hundreds of thousands of African slaves to toil the island under brutal conditions. Sugar replaced tobacco and cocoa as the main crop, with some 430 sugar estates reported by the mid-1700s, up from 57 nearly a century prior, according to Jamaica Information Services, a government agency.

The group protesting the royal visit noted in its letter that the British raped and killed thousands of slaves as it sought an apology for 60 reasons, including “for refusing to acknowledge the historic trade in Africans as a crime against humanity,” and for “pretending that the British led the abolition movement, when our ancestors worked, prayed and fought hard for this.” Tames, the university professor, said she and many other Jamaicans are not celebrating what is known as the queen's Platinum Jubilee.

“That doesn't speak to us in the way they might imagine that speaks to us,” she said. “In the 20th century, Jamaicans have moved beyond

celebrating the crown.” Prince William and Kate are scheduled to spend two days in Jamaica, where they're expected to meet with government officials and tour Trench Town, the gritty birthplace of rocksteady and reggae where Bob Marley grew up.

Ahead of their trip, Jamaican singer Beenie Man told TV show Good Morning Britain that the U.K. still controls the commonwealth of Jamaica: “It's all about the Queen, and the Queen serve and the Queen this and that – but what are they doing for Jamaica? They're not doing anything for us.” The monarchy has said that Britain and Jamaica have a strong trade relationship, with the island exporting goods including rum and raw cane sugar to the U.K. It also noted the creation of programs targeting poverty, security, natural disaster management, social issues and the economy.

An estimated 55,000 British citizens live in Jamaica, while some 800,000 people of Jamaican descent live in the United Kingdom. The relationship between the two countries soured in re-

cent years after some Caribbean people who had long lived in Britain legally were denied jobs, housing or medical care, with

some deported because they didn't have the required paperwork. Britain has since apologized and pledged compensation. □

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Aruba's Queen Beatrix International Airport Flying High on Journey to Sustainability

Queen Beatrix International Airport (Aruba Airport) facilitates a diverse air service network, a varied choice of commercial services and pleasant airport experiences through sustainable, safe, secure and reliable airport operations & facilities for all airport users contributing to a prosperous future for Aruba.

In 2022, Aruba Airport Authority N.V. (AAA), the company that manages and operates Aruba Airport has begun its journey with Green Globe to achieve independent certification for sustainable operations and management.

Aruba Airport is well advanced with its sustainability initiatives and seeks to gain independent validation. In preparation, four of AAA's staff members have already graduated from the Green Globe Academy after successfully completing the Sustainability Leadership for Tourism Professionals Training Course. Aruba Airport already has significant environmental and community development projects underway and aims to complete certification by the beginning of 2023.

CEO Aruba Airport Authority N.V. Joost Meijs says, "As one of the leading airports in the region, our vision is to become one of the most Sustainable, Safe and Future Proof airports in the Latin American & Caribbean region. We have defined four pillars as part of our

strategy in which Sustainability and social responsibility play an important role and Green Globe Certification aligns perfectly with our vision towards building a sustainable company.

"We aim to become the first airport in the Caribbean and hopefully the first in the world to be Green Globe Certified paving the way as a leader in sustainable operation and management of our airport," added CEO Meijs.

Airport Carbon Accreditation Level 2

Aruba Airport has been part of the Airports Council International's (ACI) Airport Carbon Accreditation (ACA) for the last four years and has taken numerous actions in favor of the environment. Airport Carbon Accreditation is the only global, airport-specific program that certifies airports' efforts to manage and reduce carbon emissions. It is the ideal program for Aruba Airport to support Aruba becoming inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable while taking urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts, according to goals #11 and #13 of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

Airport Carbon Accreditation Level 2, (known as Reduction Level) highlights Aruba Airport's efforts to measure, manage and reduce its carbon footprint. These efforts include the replacement of all lights

with LED lighting, the placement of electrical timers in and around the airport terminal and the introduction of more efficient air conditioning equipment, amongst other initiatives. Aruba Airport is working closely with third parties to reduce wider airport-based carbon emissions and in doing so aims to achieve accreditation Level 3 (Optimisation) by 2022.

Roadmap to Sustainable Dutch Caribbean Inter-Island Air Transportation

In April of 2021, Aruba Airport together with the 5 other commercial airports of the Dutch Caribbean signed a Cooperation Agreement that formalized the Dutch Caribbean Cooperation of Airports (DCCA). An important vision of DCCA is achieving sustainable, stable and affordable air connections by adapting its airport infrastructure where possible and based on the needs of inter-island airline operators.

DCCA has agreed to work together to organize a Sustainable Air Transportation event between Dutch Caribbean Islands to take place in November 2022 in Aruba, organized by Aruba Airport Authority N.V.. This event will be a crucial first step towards igniting discussions on new air travel business models including passenger handling experiences, competitive prices and convenient air connection for both airlines and passengers. It is an important moment to exchange in-

formation, share knowledge and expertise. A successful joint venture of this caliber will stimulate island hopping tourism, labor markets, health services and social networks in the Dutch Caribbean without harming the planet.

Wings of Hope

Wings of Hope" (WoH) took off on June 1, 2020 with the sole purpose to assist and support around 70 families in great need due to the current pandemic. In 2021, WoH focused its efforts on five of the United Nation's SDGs: No Hunger, Education, Affordable and Clean Energy, Environment/Sustainable Airport Community, and Partnership. Several projects were undertaken including provision of food vouchers to families in need, school materials and uniforms for students as well as coverage of school tuition fees. In addition, an "Energy Champion" competition where the winning school received AWG 20,000 to complete their sustainable plan was organized, along with support for a nursery for the Luna Foundation that rescues street dogs and strays and raises awareness in regard to spaying and neutering. For 2022, WoH's goals focus on: No Hunger, Education, Awareness, Environment/Sustainable Airport Community, and Partnership. The purpose is to continue contributing to the Aruban community through various projects and making a difference towards a more sustainable future for all. □

Changes in the law regarding tobacco products

From the 2nd of May 2022, the changes to the law regarding tobacco products will go into effect. The main changes include a prohibition from smoking in certain areas, including transportation, as well as a ban on the sale of cigarettes to people under 21 years of age.

On October 26, 2021, minister of Public Health, Dangui Oduber was in Parliament of Aruba to debate the law 'Landsverordening tot wijziging van den Landsverordening beperking tabaksproducten', essentially, a law to make changes to the existing law regarding tobacco products. This law received

unanimous approval.

On the 2nd of May 2022, this law will go into effect. In short, the changes are:

1. Article 2: prohibits smoking in public places;
2. Article 2A: prohibits smoking in private transportation when there is a minor in the vehicle;
3. Article 3: employers are

responsible for the protection of their employees from cigarette smoke during working hours and at work premises;

4. Article 4: prohibits smoking in any form of public transportation;
5. Article 5: prohibits the sale or distribution of tobacco in certain instances;
6. Article 6: prohibits the

sale or distribution of tobacco to people under 21 years of age;

7: Article 6A: prohibits the sale of individual cigarettes. Cigarettes must be sold in a sealed pack.

In the following days, the government will provide further information regarding these changes. □

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35th years of treasured memories Caribbean Palm Village Resort celebrates its unique vacation community

NOORD – The mood was especially jubilant at the Caribbean Palm Village Resort (CPVR) recently as members and return guests celebrated the special bond of a community formed over years of return visits to Aruba.

The 35th year anniversary of flourishing lifelong friendships was appropriately commemorated where they began, poolside in the spacious, palm-lined courtyard of Caribbean Palm Village Resort.

The anniversary celebration was reflective of the strength and vibrancy of Caribbean Palm Village Resort's very special ambiance marked by easy familiarity, high spirits, and laughter. Friendliness among fellow members and guests as well as employees remains a regular staple of a CPVR stay. The recent celebration's main organizer and regular ac-



tivities coordinator Mislady Fingal, together with Sales Coordinator Laura Croes, led the festivities with her usual high energy and infectious positive mood. Board President Lou Garcia was also on hand to toast to the occasion with fellow members and friends.

"We are a tight-knit group here. We love Aruba and we are dedicated to the Caribbean Palm Village. You can see this exhibited every day, today at our 35th year celebration and throughout a CPVR stay and especially on check-

out days, when the ritual of departure includes warm goodbyes and hugs before heading to the airport," comments Board President Lou Garcia.

First opened in 1987, the Noord-based timeshare resort, offering a tranquil home base that is only a short drive from Aruba's bustling high-rise area, has delivered countless treasured memories over the subsequent decades. It's unique, intimate resort environment offered and continues to offer the largest suites in Aruba as well



as two large pools in wide courtyard settings. It provides a private, attractive place to enjoy Aruba's cooling winds and ever-present sun for a truly idyllic vacation experience.

The 35th anniversary celebration is a special high-point this year, but everyday reunions, activities and interactions among members, guests and employ-

ees remain a constant at this well-established happy place on one happy island. Caribbean Palm Village Resort is located off Palm Beach Road at Noord 43-E, and is a welcoming community for longtime visitors as well as first-time guests alike. To learn more, feel free to stop by, visit the website: www.cpvr.com or call: 526-2700, ext. 2883 or 2882. □





Article by Etnia Nativa

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Aruba's medicinal plants

Episode CXLVI - 146

Our goal at Etnia Nativa is to raise cultural awareness, promoting education and to safeguard our heritage as the sacred mother seed for renewal and reinvention, guiding you to become the next and a new guardian of Aruba.

Trough thousands of years cultures of the ancient world experimented with the healing power of plants. Re-gaining ones vital powers and health whas essential for any groups survival. Plants where considered the main source from where to extract healing powers due to their chemical compositions contained in leaves, flowers, stem or root, fruits and saps. Through different preparation methods, they could prepair different potions which in many cases still are being applied to treat various ailments. This could be of a simple headache to more serious ailments.

Today we see that medicinal plants and ancient knowledge are an intricate part of pharmaceutical research, whether it is for the benefit of man kind or the contrary.

The use of plants for medicine dates back to ancient times and civilizations. Evidence of the used of medicinal herbs in Egypt dates back to around 1550 BC, as did the Greeks in the 16th century BC. Healing plannts were also common during the Middle Ages. In the 19th and 20th centuries, folk knowledge of medicinal plants where passed from generation to generation, attributing the practice mainly women healers, who applying plans and herbs to treat common diseases and ailments.



ments.

For an infusion, the active ingredients of the plant are dissolved in water by boiling it in to a drink. If it need to be applied to an external affected area, the part of the plant that contains the healing properties is crushed and applied. A direct way to ingest certain medicinal herbs is to eat them, for example, in a salad, like a tea or mixed into a syrups or honey. Plants can also be mashed in to a mortar mixed with oils of certain seeds in order to be aplied on wounds or skin deseses. In our case acient Aruban cultures have also applied a wide variety of medicinal plants to treat their ilneses.

Following I wil share some of the most comon plant that an native aruban will

use with out any hasitation when for example sor throat is threthening or as and agent against the poisonous nature of the stinging hairs of *Jatropha urens* or *Bringa mosa** (* Papiamentu).

For a sore throat local people will go in to the country side to look for Roots of The Seida* *Jatropha gossypifolia*. This is cleaned and boiled in to gargela potion, allowed to cool and gargled with excellent results and quickly relieves the uncomfortable sore throat.

Another plant that is often used for asthma is *Datura metel*, commonly known in our Papiamentu language as "Yerba stinky*". Oddly enough, but popular history tells that the leaves of this plant are smoked to cleanse the lungs.

If you love Aruba its origins and its cultural heritage, be part of the exclusive visitors of this cozy home-atelier called "Etnia Nativa". This private residential houses collections of native art, archaeological artifacts and historic furniture, while the facilities themselves are the result of the transformation of recycled materials.

Meet the acclaimed columnist at home! Book your visit Whatsapp + 297 592 2702- or mail: etnianativa03@gmail.com.



Millennial Money: Should you invest in a friend's business?



In this June 15, 2018, file photo, twenty dollar bills are counted in North Andover, Mass.

Associated Press

By **KELSEY SHEEHY**
of **NerdWallet**

Ben & Jerry's was started by childhood best friends. Four grad school buddies founded Warby Parker. A long friendship-turned-partnership brought Clear to TSA security lines across the U.S.

A shopping trip between two pals launched size-inclusive clothing brand Universal Standard.

Yes, stories of successful business partnerships between friends exist. But for every Ben and Jerry, there are countless Janes and Joes ticked off at their college roommate for stiffing them on a business loan.

Mixing business and friendship can tank a relationship. So, if a classmate, colleague or childhood friend asks you to invest in their business, you need to look at it from all angles.

THINK LIKE A PROFESSIONAL INVESTOR

Don't let your personal relationship cloud your business judgment. Evaluate the request as if it was coming from a stranger.

Does the business offer something unique? Does it fill a need in the market? Does the founder have

business acumen? Do they have experience in the industry?

"A professional investor always wants to see where the 'Aha' is," says Dileep Rao, clinical professor of entrepreneurship at Florida International University. "Is this likely to become a major company? If the potential is huge, it makes sense from a financial perspective."

You also need to know the terms of your investment and what you're getting in return. If your friend is asking for a business loan, discuss the repayment timeline and interest.

If your investment is in exchange for equity, review the terms. Is it solely a financial transaction, or will you have access to and input on business operations?

A handshake deal doesn't cut it, even with — or especially with — lifelong friends. Make sure everything is in writing if you opt to invest so there's no confusion down the line.

ALWAYS, ALWAYS STUDY THE BUSINESS PLAN

Examine the business plan to see if your friend has thought through all aspects of the business.

A thorough plan should include financial projections, current revenue, five-year projections and a detailed market analysis that outlines competitors and potential obstacles.

"You have to do your due diligence even if you have known the person your whole life," Dimitrios Mano, an entrepreneur, said through email. Mano co-founded Bloom Express, an online CBD marketplace, in 2019 with a close college friend while the two were still in school.

Outside of his co-founder, Mano did not approach friends or family for a startup business loan. The duo relied on personal savings and income from their day jobs.

"I have seen friends ruin 20-plus years of friendships over irrelevant business arguments and family members completely cut ties with one another because of a slight disagreement," Mano said. For him, the investment wasn't worth the potential personal cost.

COMMUNICATE, BUT SET BOUNDARIES

The lines between business and personal affairs can quickly blur when you in-

vest in a loved one's business. While clear, frequent communication is essential, it's important to draw boundaries.

When Mark Aselstine co-founded Uncorked Ventures, a now-defunct online wine club, with his brother-in-law, the duo set strict rules at the onset.

"We decided at the beginning that we wouldn't say anything to each other that we wouldn't say to our nieces or nephews," Aselstine said through email. The two relegated business talk to morning meetings, rather than casual outings. "(We) had a rule to not talk about it at family events (and) dinners. Having those dividing lines, but open communication was key."

DON'T INVEST MONEY YOU CAN'T AFFORD TO LOSE

"Don't think you're going to make a fortune if you help a friend out," Rao says. In fact, don't expect to make any money at all.

Roughly 20% of businesses close within the first year, according to data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics. And most startups never deliver a positive return.

"Ask yourself if you are OK if you lose all the money you

invested in your friend's startup," Amanda Sanders, founder of Authentic CEO, said through email. Sanders has been on both sides of the equation — as an entrepreneur and an investor. "If the honest answer is yes with no ill will toward your friend, then the relationship is likely to remain solid regardless of the business outcome," she said. "If your answer is conditional, then the outcome of the friendship is likely to be conditional on the business investment."

OFFER SUPPORT, EXPERTISE OVER CASH

Money isn't the only way to support a friend's business. You can offer time, expertise and connections.

Pitch in at pop-ups and events. Manage their social media accounts. Hand out flyers to get the word out. Be a sounding board for ideas and issues.

Or just show up with take-out from time to time, Sanders said.

"Having a friend interrupt your endless work schedule and bring in the food, the fun and the Fireball (the third part is optional) is very important for maintaining sanity." □

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS 40 Casual

1 Go bad eatery

6 Clutter 41 Acute

10 River 42 Future

through flowers

Nantes

11 Like a **DOWN**

1 Downhill

12 Portion

out course

13 Après-ski

spot star

14 Birdbath

spot setting

15 Cooling

season remover

16 Mine

material out

17 PD alert

6 Pointless

7 Finish

8 Letter

before tau

19 Balmy

condition 25 Took by

22 Thin

board force

23 Pearl

Harbor

setting

26 Indiscrimi-

nate

29 Friend of

Frodo

32 Frilly

wrap

33 Dull life

34 Camera

support

36 Tedious

fellow

37 Gawked

at

38 Rubbish

39 Tending to

bleed

A	H	E	A	D	H	A	G	A	R
P	O	S	S	E	I	R	E	N	E
P	U	S	H	B	U	T	T	O	N
T	S	E	U	N	O	R	U	T	
S	E	N	D	S	I	N	G	A	Y
		R	S	T		J	I	L	L
S	P	L	A	Y		L	E	A	S
C	R	A	B		B	O	A		
R	O	B		T	O	W	N	C	A
I	C	E		A	L	E		O	N
P	U	L	L	S	T	R	I	N	G
T	R	E	A	T		E	R	A	S
S	E	D	G	E		D	I	E	N

Yesterday's answer

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9
10						11			
12						13			
14					15				
16				17				18	
19			20				21		
	22					23		24	25
			26		27				28
29	30	31		32				33	
34			35				36		
37						38			
39						40			
41						42			

A X Y D L B A A X R
is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

3-23

CRYPTOQUOTE

N I X N S I J X C G R C L I C E X D N S

U X P L E G P D N Q G X Q K M P D I J C I

N L X P D B N L D I C L I K M H C F P L E

X V B P I P L E G P D B N R X Q P X D .

— C . C . H P K L X

Yesterday's Cryptoquote: IF YOU LOOK THE RIGHT WAY, YOU CAN SEE THAT THE WHOLE WORLD IS A GARDEN. — FRANCES HODGSON BURNETT

Apple Co-Founder Wozniak still looking for next big thing



In this photo provided by TransparentBusiness, Apple founder Steve Wozniak poses for a picture.

Associated Press

By MICHAEL LIEDTKE
AP Technology Writer

Apple co-founder Steve Wozniak has remained immersed in technology while also pursuing divergent interests since his 1985 departure from the revolutionary company he started with the late Steve Jobs.

Wozniak's side projects have included competing on "Dancing With The Stars" in 2009 and a guest appearance on "Big Bang Theory" during its fourth season.

Now he is participating in an online video show called "Unicorn Hunters" that assesses ideas from entrepreneurs vying to build startups potentially worth \$1 billion or more. Wozniak sits on a panel of judges that includes former U.S. Treasurer Rosie Rios and NSYNC singer Lance Bass.

Q: What attracted you to "Unicorn Hunters"?

A: I am kind of surprised because I am not really in the financial community as much as the technical community, but the call really came from a good friend that I trust a lot. And she's a good producer that

even got me on "Dancing With The Stars," one of the most fun things you could ever do.

Q: What do you think of

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the current state in technology?

A: I think a lot has been going on that really enhances your life. Over the last decade, look at the internet of things, the cameras we put in our house, the Ring doorbells, the different locking systems, and controlling your lights, and speaking to the personal assistants like Siri or Alexa. □



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HTTA

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'West Side Story' star Rachel Zegler not invited to Oscars

By **LINDSEY BAHR**
AP Film Writer

Steven Spielberg's "West Side Story" is nominated for seven Academy Awards, including best picture, director and supporting actress for Ariana DeBose. Yet the star of the movie musical will not be among those attending the ceremony on Sunday.

Rachel Zegler, the 20-year-old who plays Maria, posted Sunday that she tried to go but "it doesn't seem to be happening" and that she will be rooting for "West Side Story" from her couch. "I hope some last minute miracle occurs and I can celebrate our film in person but hey, that's how it goes sometimes, I guess," Zegler continued on Instagram. "Thanks for all the shock and outrage — I'm disappointed, too. But that's OK. So proud of our movie."

The post drew a lot of attention online as many couldn't fathom why the lead of a best picture nominee wouldn't have been invited to the ceremony or at least been asked to present an award. Best picture nominees are



Rachel Zegler attends the "West Side Story" premiere in New York on Nov. 29, 2021.

Associated Press

allotted a certain number of tickets by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, which the film's studio then doles out as they see fit.

Presenters and individual nominees get a pair of tickets. And other spots in the room go to the broadcaster, sponsors and academy members, who can enter a lottery.

Zegler is not nominated,

but to only make things more vexing, her next big role is as Snow White, which Disney Co., which owns Oscars broadcaster ABC, wouldn't want their new Snow White there in some capacity, like presenting or performing.

Others saw it as a missed opportunity to have a rising young Latina star represented at the show. Disney and Academy representatives did not respond to requests for comment.

Russ Tamblyn, who played Riff in the 1961 "West Side Story" and is a voting member of the Academy, tweeted that it was the Academy's "duty to find Rachel a seat at the Oscars.... When they say representation matters, this is what that means. Please

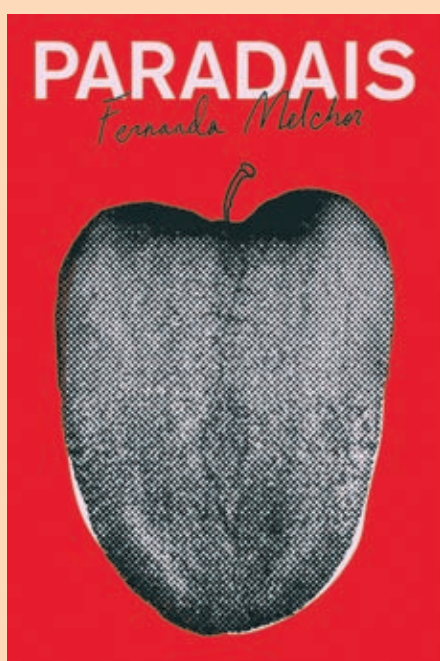
do right by her."

Alec Baldwin tweeted that he would buy Zegler two tickets to the show.

And "One Day at a Time" showrunner Gloria Calderón Felletti tweeted at ABC and the Academy, "How about the rare time that Latine people have a movie nominated for an OSCAR you invite the lead. Latine people are 18.5% of this country. ENOUGH!"

Oscars tickets are always hot commodities and this year are even more limited than usual because of efforts to maintain more space between guests to help prevent the spread of COVID-19. Most academy members have never gotten to attend.

And the outrage has only intensified as more and more presenters with limited connections to the nominated movies or the movie business at all are announced. On Monday, producers revealed that DJ Khaled, Tony Hawk, Kelly Slater and Shaun White would all be presenting awards at the show, which will be broadcast live on ABC on Sunday starting at 8pm ET. □



This cover image released by New Directions shows "Paradais" by Fernanda Melchor.

Associated Press

By **AMANCAI BIRABEN**
Associated Press

The fantasies that distort reality slither through Paradais, the gated community that sets Fernanda Melchor's garden of Eden and gives her latest novel its name. Macabre characters drive the

Review: Another side of paradise in Melchor's 'Paradais'

plot and slithering syntax the prose, guiding Melchor's tale into the shadows of a society locked by chains.

Outcast teenagers Leopoldo Garcia Chaparro, or Polo, and Franco Andrade, or Fatboy, shape the novel's central collisions.

Told from the close third narrator, readers are brought in closer to Polo's world, the residence's "muchacho" travels between Progreso, his neighboring village, and Paradais, where he is a gardener.

He is "dark skinned and ugly as sin," according to his mother. Caught between his mother's domineering control and the ominous drug cartels that slither through Progreso, Polo succumbs draws out his days with Fatboy, one of Paradais' residents.

Fatboy steals money from his grandparents to buy booze and cheesy snacks, the main incentive for Polo's company.

Fatboy has "blond curls that made him look ridiculous, like an overfed cherubin; a monstrous manchild whose soulless eyes lit up" only when he sets them on Señora Marian.

Portrayed through Polo's interpretation, readers feel the immense loathing he feels towards Fatboy's charmed predicament, his luxurious future a spoon-fed assurance. It's a marked contrast to Polo's, which is locked in the marred contours of colonial subjugation. The two form a relationship rooted in loneliness and desperation that culminates in a scheme to obtain their ultimate escapist desires, with the respective consequences playing out Mexico's racist, classist and sexist fate.

Melchor's prose undulates with shifting clauses and semantic chaos that run wild like the "lianas and thorns and flowers that mummified the young trees then scattered the snags with devil's

trumpets and blue bellworts," contrasting the "sleek blades of perfect lawn" within the housing complex.

As Polo aims to hack away at any growth of the relentless jungle that "invaded the flowerbeds and central reservations, decimating the begonias and China roses" readers as immersed in the subtext of Polo's existential plight between the forces of social control. Melchor has added a necessary work to the gothic genre resonant with the social fragilities of today's Mexico, the geopolitical vulnerability it speaks to defiant of aesthetic pretensions and moralistic conclusions.

Amidst the black river that flows out in the margins of the sea, the relations between characters who populate the world's parasitic tendencies, and the cavernous fate to which the protagonists are brought, there is no redemption in this paradise lost. □

Wild, Avs, Rangers among the winners at NHL trade deadline

By **LARRY LAGE**
AP Hockey Writer

Marc-Andre Fleury may have been the biggest winner at the NHL trade deadline, getting dealt by the rebuilding Chicago Blackhawks to the potentially contending Minnesota Wild.

Minnesota acquired the biggest name available on Monday, adding a three-time Stanley Cup winner. The bold move boosts the Wild's chances of making the playoffs and perhaps making a deep run for the first time since reaching the 2003 Western Conference finals.

The Wild gave up a conditional first-round pick in this year's draft, and Chicago agreed to pay half of what is left on the last year of Fleury's three-year contract.

"It was a very open, collaborative process and Minnesota obviously was a very favorable location for him," Chicago's first-year general manager Kyle Davidson said. "I'm glad we could work out something that worked for the Wild, Marc and also the Blackhawks." The 37-year-old Fleury, who was 19-21-1 with four shutouts in Chicago, won the Vezina Trophy as the league's top goalie with the Vegas Golden Knights



Chicago Blackhawks goaltender Marc-Andre Fleury (29) makes a save during the second period of an NHL hockey game against the Ottawa Senators Saturday, March 12, 2022 in Ottawa, Ontario.
Associated Press

just a year ago. The high-scoring Wild effectively exchanged Fleury for Kaspo Kahkonen, who they traded to San Jose for a fifth-round pick, and gave themselves an option in net other than Cam Talbot. Here's a look at some of the other winners at the deadline, when 33 deals were made involving 54 players, and in the days leading up to the potentially pivotal day:

NEW YORK RANGERS

The Rangers, who failed to make the playoffs last

season for the third time in four years, improved their chances of making noise in the postseason for the first time since reaching the 2015 Eastern Conference finals.

New York bolstered its defense by acquiring Philadelphia's Justin Braun and improved their depth up front, adding Tyler Motte from Vancouver and Winnipeg's Andrew Copp. The Rangers gave up a total of five picks, including two conditional second-round selections to Winnipeg,

along with a pair of minor league prospects.

COLORADO AVALANCHE

The NHL-leading Avs, clearly, are not content with their place in the standings by acquiring forward Artturi Lehkonen from Montreal to make plays at both ends of the ice. They also landed San Jose forward Andrew Cogliano to add depth after bolstering the blue line after acquiring defenseman Josh Manson from Anaheim last week.

TAMPA BAY LIGHTNING

Winners find a way, and the

Lightning looked as if they did on Friday by acquiring 23-year-old forward Brandon Hagel — who scored 21 goals for a second straight season in Chicago — for a pair of first-round picks.

Tampa Bay also added a layer of toughness by adding 6-foot-3, 225-pound forward Nick Paul from Ottawa in a quest to become the NHL's first team to win three straight Stanley Cups since the New York Islanders won four in a row from 1980 to 1983.

"Everybody's trying to get that extra edge — whatever they think that is," coach Jon Cooper said.

FLORIDA PANTHERS

The Panthers, who lead the rival Lightning in the Atlantic Division, made a splash Saturday by acquiring seven-time All-Star forward Claude Giroux from Philadelphia a few days after adding standout defenseman Ben Chiarot of Montreal.

PITTSBURGH PENGUINS

Vying with Carolina and the Rangers to win the Metropolitan Division, the Penguins added 16-goal scorer Rickard Rakell from Anaheim. His 154 goals in 550 games rank fifth on the Ducks' all-time list and his secondary scoring is needed in Pittsburgh. □

Top colleges accused of violating Black athletes' rights

By **RALPH D. RUSSO**
AP College Sports Writer

A group that advocates for college athletes has filed a federal complaint that claims NCAA Division I schools are violating the civil rights of Black basketball players and major college football players by prohibiting compensation.

The National College Players Association announced Tuesday it had submitted a complaint to the Office for Civil Rights in the Education Department. The NCPA says NCAA rules prohibiting schools from compensating athletes disproportionately impacts Black students.

"I believe it's important to

first acknowledge the reality of the business that is college football," Stanford football player Elijah Higgins said in a statement through the NCPA.

Citing a 2018 study by the University of Southern California's Race and Equity Center, the complaint said "Black men were 2.4% of undergraduate students enrolled at the 65 (Power Five conference) universities, but comprised 55% of football teams and 56% of men's basketball teams on those campuses."

"This multibillion college sports enterprise imposes discriminatory practices that disproportionate-

ly harms Black athletes, while predominantly white coaches and administrators make millions of dollars," said NCPA Executive Director Ramogi Huma, a former UCLA football player. "College athletes throughout predominantly white sports receive fair market compensation, but athletes in the only predominantly Black sports do not."

The College Football Playoff, which operates outside the NCAA, is worth more than \$470 million annually to the 10 conferences that run it, with the majority of that money going to the Power Five — the Atlantic Coast, Big Ten, Big 12, Pac-12 and



The NCAA headquarters in Indianapolis is shown in this March 12, 2020.
Associated Press

Southeastern conferences. The NCPA claims that relative to the revenue generated by their sports, Division I football players and men's and women's basketball players have been denied

tens of thousands of dollars in compensation annually. The group has also pushed for college athletes to receive employee status, a step university officials largely oppose. □

Analysis: NBA scoring race could end up as one for the ages

By **TIM REYNOLDS**
AP Basketball Writer

In 2022, the end of the season might feel like 1978. If we're lucky.

Let's go back to the greatest scoring race in NBA history, one that was decided 44 years ago, the epic to-the-last-day battle between David Thompson and George Gervin.

Each had a game on April 9, 1978, that season's final day. Thompson's game was first; he scored 73 points for the Denver Nuggets to take the scoring lead. Gervin, playing a few hours later, would need 58 points to reclaim the top spot.

He scored 63 for the San Antonio Spurs. The crown was his, 27.22 points to 27.15 for Thompson.

Imagine such a scene playing out this season on April 10 — the scoring title once again going down to the season's final day. Only this time, with three players in the race. It could happen. Entering Tuesday, the NBA finds itself on pace for the closest three-man scoring race in league history. LeBron James of the Los Angeles Lakers is atop the list averaging 29.96 points (which would round up to 30.0), Joel Embiid of the Philadelphia 76ers is second at 29.83, and Giannis Antetokounmpo of the Milwaukee Bucks is third at 29.80.



Philadelphia 76ers' Joel Embiid goes up for a shot during the second half of an NBA basketball game against the Dallas Mavericks, Friday, March 18, 2022, in Philadelphia.

Associated Press

The last time a race ended up that close between the top three spots was, well, never. The closest three-way race was in 1985-86, when Dominique Wilkins averaged 30.3 points — a half-point better than both Adrian Dantley and Alex English. And a decade ago, Kevin Durant, then with Oklahoma City, held off the Lakers' Kobe Bryant by one-tenth of a point, 28.0 to 27.9 for the second-closest head-to-head race ever. Obviously, the numbers will change. Embiid might get a game or two more off down the stretch

to rest his body. If the 76ers have nothing to play for on the season's final day, one wouldn't expect him out there with only a scoring title at stake. Same goes for Antetokounmpo; if the Bucks are locked into a seed, it would seem foolish for Milwaukee to play the reigning NBA Finals MVP much, if at all. And the Lakers' only path to the playoffs is through the play-in, which means James might be called upon to play big minutes — and potentially put up big numbers — all the way to the end. "At the end of the day,"

James said, "all I care about is wins and losses." A scoring race, though, would add just an extra dimension to the end of the season, just another reason to tune in and pay attention to what's happening. The Western Conference race will long be over by then; realistically, it is now, since there's no way barring unthinkable, cataclysmic collapse that Phoenix won't be the No. 1 seed. The Eastern Conference race is considerably tighter, and the potential is quite high that regardless of who ends up seeded where the

first-round series on that half of the bracket will be slugfests.

But anything involving James is certain to be intriguing. Same goes with Antetokounmpo. Same goes with Embiid. Put them together, and the intrigue levels skyrocket.

The only downside to all of this is that it could have been a four-man race.

Brooklyn's Durant is fourth in the league in scoring, four-tenths behind James and two-tenths behind Antetokounmpo and Embiid at 29.6 per game. But Durant basically can't win the scoring title since he won't meet the NBA's minimum — 58 games in an 82-game season — to qualify.

So, unless somebody gets really, really hot down the stretch, the scoring race is down to three.

Trae Young, Luka Doncic, DeMar DeRozan, Ja Morant and Jayson Tatum are all within 3.0 points of James' average right now (as is Kyrie Irving, who obviously won't meet the minimum games-played threshold). If any of those guys go on an absolute spree — not unheard of in this day and age — they could make a run at the title as well.

The potential is there for a thrilling finish, just like the league had in 1978.

It would be the perfect appetizer to the playoffs. □



St. Peter's head coach Shaheen Holloway looks on in the second half of an NCAA college basketball game against Monmouth during the championship of the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference tournament, Saturday, March 12, 2022, in Atlantic City, N.J.

Associated Press

By **TOM CANAVAN**
AP Sports Writer

JERSEY CITY, N.J. (AP) — Shaheen Holloway of Saint Peter's might be one of the hottest coaching

commodities in college basketball.

Even before the 15th-seeded Peacocks (21-11) became the Cinderella story of the NCAA Tournament

Saint Peter's Holloway a 'rock star' coaching commodity

with shocking wins over No. 2 seed Kentucky and No. 7 seed Murray State, Holloway was rumored to be the top contender for the vacant Massachusetts job.

Then last week, Seton Hall coach Kevin Willard said that Holloway, a former Pirates player and assistant, should get his job if it opened. Willard was hired by Maryland on Monday. Holloway was asked about the job the rumors and the accompanying distractions on Tuesday as his Metro Atlantic Athletic

Conference championship team practice for Friday night's Sweet 16 game in Philadelphia against No. 3 seed Purdue (29-7).

"I'm not worried about that," he said. "I worry about the job I have right now. I worry about the team I have right now. I worry about what we're doing right now. That's the only thing that is important. 'Everything else, it's just hoopla,' he added. "I don't get to rumors and that type of stuff. I focus on the mission in front of me right now and what's

in front of me is trying to help these gentlemen accomplish their goals and dreams."

Holloway is in his fourth season at the tiny Jesuit school that has an undergraduate enrollment of 2,134 students. Despite a 10-22 record his first season, he is 63-56 overall. The university has not disclosed what Holloway is making but it is reportedly \$300,000 per year. Coaches at major schools make millions. Willard will get \$3.9 million in his first season with the Terps. □